BAMBOO BLADE C

STORY: TOTSUKA MASAHIRO | ART: TAKAO JINGU

CHAPTER 02:

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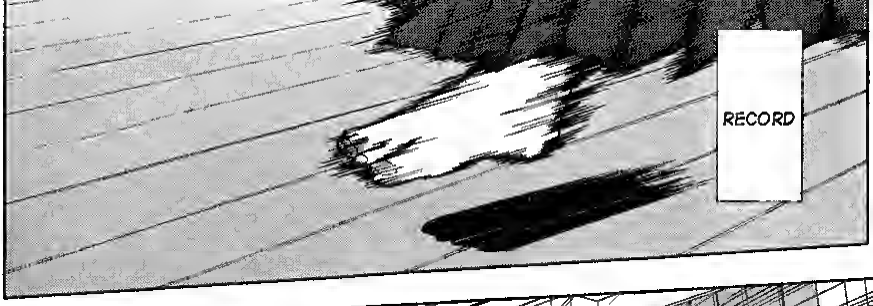
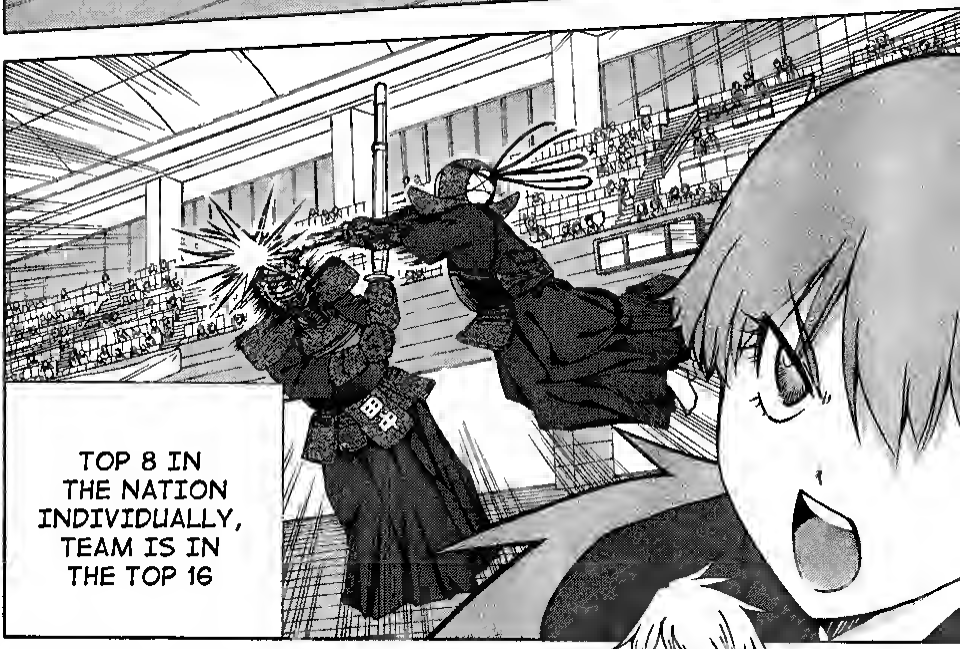
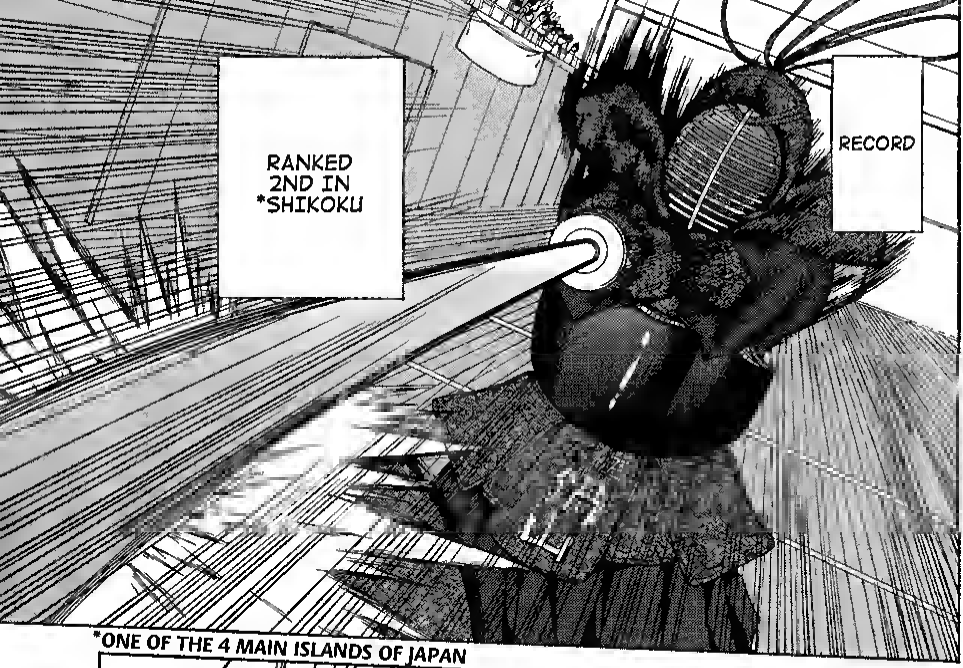
BAMBOO BLADE
#2
TOKYO
KAME-NOMIYA HIGH SCHOOL
FIRST YEAR, CLASS 1. OTSUKA MARUKO
MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTRA CURRICULAR: KENDO
...BUT IN REALITY...?!
AT FIRST GLANCE, YOUR AVERAGE GIRL...

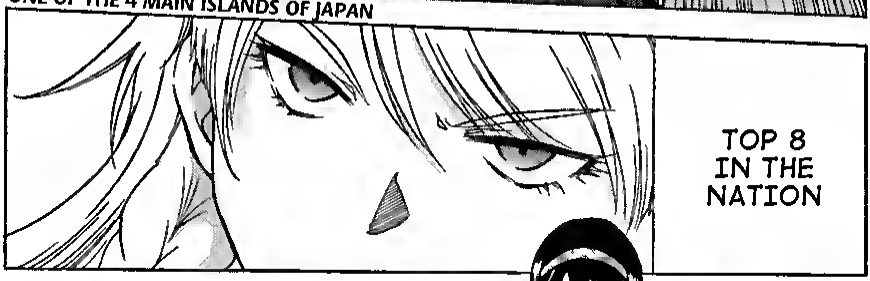

RECORD


TOP 8 IN THE NATION INDIVIDUALLY, TEAM IS IN THE TOP 16

SAME MIDDLE SCHOOL. KENDO CLUB.
FIRST YEAR, CLASS 1. NABEYAMA SAMI



*ONE OF THE 4 MAIN ISLANDS OF JAPAN



IN THEIR FRESHMAN SUMMER

THEY FOLLOW THE WAY OF KENDO

2ND IN THE NATION RECORD

大反響♪新連載第2巻

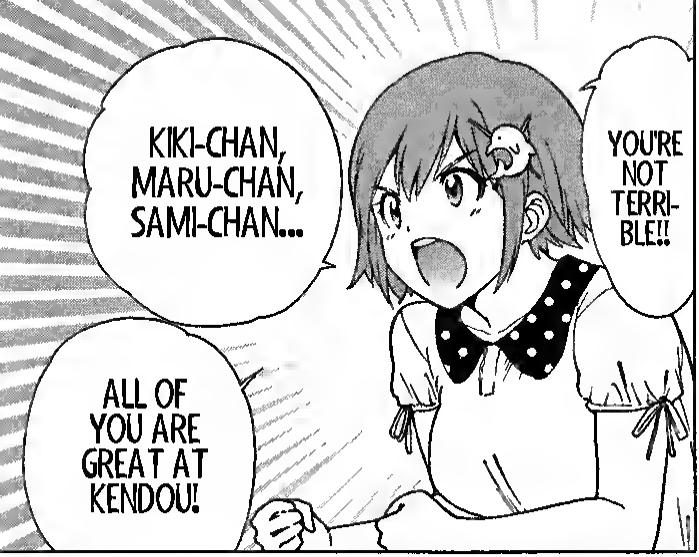
BAMBOO BLADE C

バンブーブレード シー

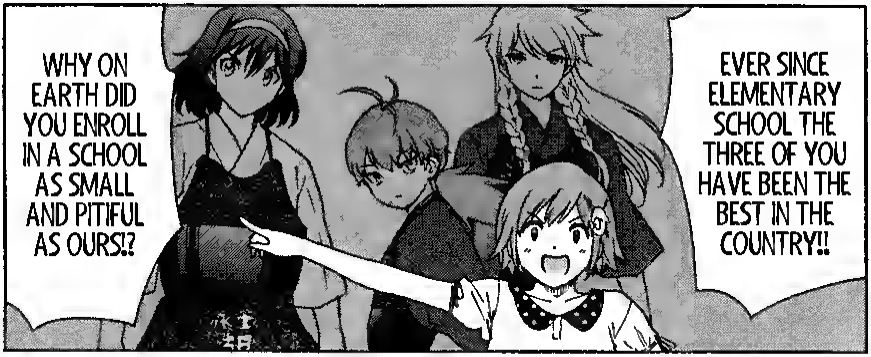
原作：土塚理弘　作画：高尾じんぐ

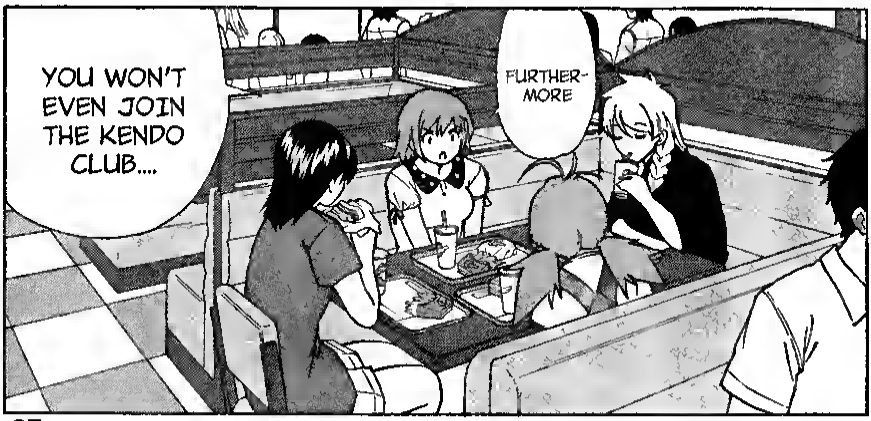
●ガンガンONLINEで「予告編」①②公開中！
●BG公式HPで第1話立ち読み公開中！

THE BOOK I MADE! WITH ALL YOUR RECORDS!
THIS IS...
CHEW
SLURP


KIKI-CHAN, MARU-CHAN, SAMI-CHAN...
YOU'RE NOT TERRI-BLE!!
ALL OF YOU ARE GREAT AT KENDOU!

WEL-COME~


WHY ON EARTH DID YOU ENROLL IN A SCHOOL AS SMALL AND PITIFUL AS OURS!?
EVER SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THE THREE OF YOU HAVE BEEN THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY!!


YOU WON'T EVEN JOIN THE KENDO CLUB....
FURTHER-MORE

DONT WASTE FOOD!!
I'M FULL
SIGH
NOT LIKE THAT
NO
AH
I GET IT, EAT WITHOUT LEAVING ANYTHING BEHIND
WE'RE JUST GIRLS WHO WANT TO DO THINGS LIKE GET BURGERS ON THE WEEKEND
YUP
JUST NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
SAMI-CHAN...
CHIKO-CHAN, IT'S LIKE YOU'VE SAID BEFORE
THAT DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH US ANY MORE

KIKI-CHAN, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
.....
MARU-CHAN.
RIGHT?
JUST ORDINARY GIRLS YOU'D SEE ANYWHERE
BLEGH
WHY...
EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE 2ND IN THE NATION...
YEAR AFTER YEAR, DIDN'T YOU SWING YOUR BLADES UNTIL YOU BLED!? DIDN'T YOU WORK HARD?
AFTER WATCHING SUZUHARU ALL THIS TIME I UNDERSTAND!
ON TOP OF THAT...
TO GET STRONGER... NO MATTER HOW HARD IT IS, YOU HAVE TO KEEP PRACTICING, ALL THE TIME!

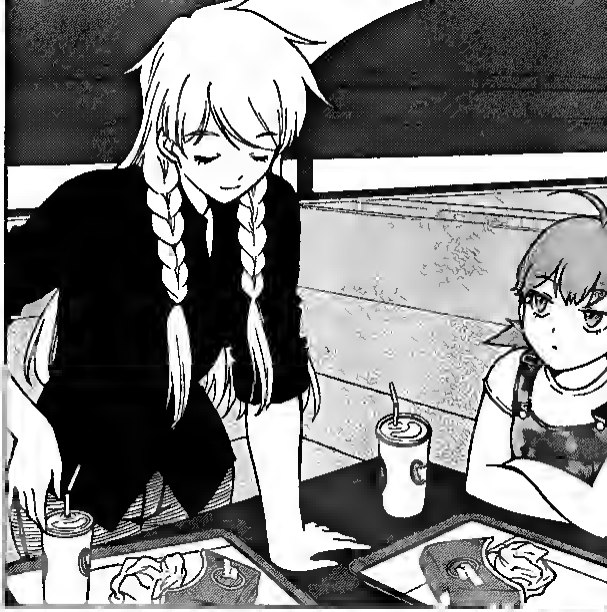
THIS
IS DELICIOUS ~~!!
YUP
THIS SAUCE
IT'S SO YUMMY
EH ?
AVOCADO BURGER
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANTED TO TELL US?
REALLY?
RIGHT? IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD IT ON A HAMBURGER

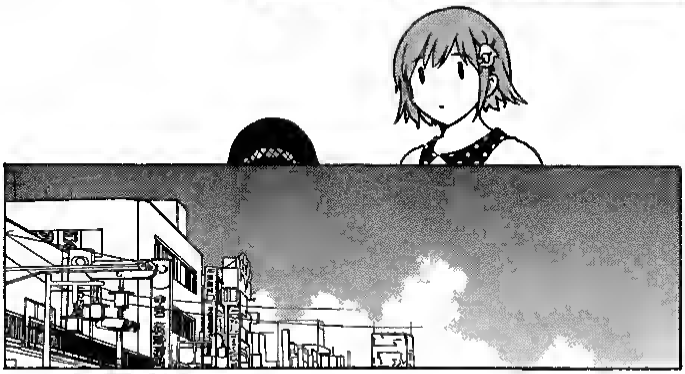
CHIKO-CHAN, IT'S JUST AS YOU SAID, WE WORKED EXTREMELY HARD
MY FOOD WAS ALWAYS STRICTLY MANAGED
IT WASN'T ALLOWED AT HOME
I'VE NEVER EATEN SOMETHING WITH MY HANDS LIKE THIS
WE ONLY HAD RAMEN AND THINGS LIKE THAT
IN THE PAST
BUT THAT'S
TELL ME YOUR REASON!
TELL ME!
KIKI-CHAN...
THIS CHOCOLATE BANANA SHAKE IS YUMMY TOO!
フレ…!?

I'VE SWUNG MY BLADE 10,000... NO, 100,000 TIMES
THE SKIN WORE OFF MY HANDS AND BLED UNTIL THEY WERE FULL OF BLISTERS
THEY SOON BECAME USELESS
THE BACKS OF MY LEGS WERE ALSO WORN OUT
DURING SUMMER I WOULD PASS OUT FROM THE HEAT AND IN WINTER I'D GET FROSTBITE
...BUT
I DECIDED... TO THROW EVERYTHING AWAY... SO THAT I COULD HAVE A LIFE
AND SO THAT I'D GROW STRONGER, I CONTINUED TO DO MY BEST
DESPITE ALL THAT, FOR THE SAKE OF MY GOALS

DO YOU STILL ....
.... QUES-TION...
OUR REA-SONS ?!

WE SHOULD GO SOON
I THINK I'VE EATEN ENOUGH

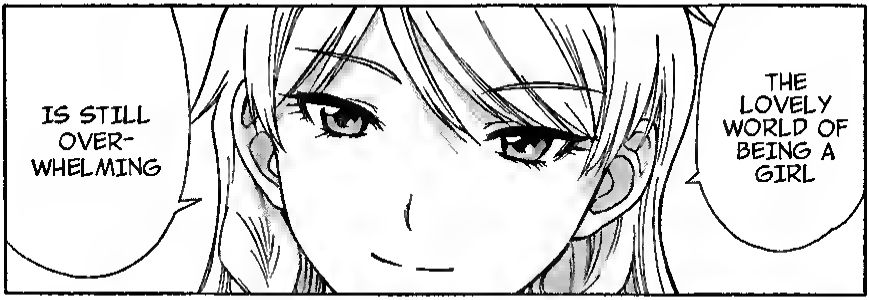


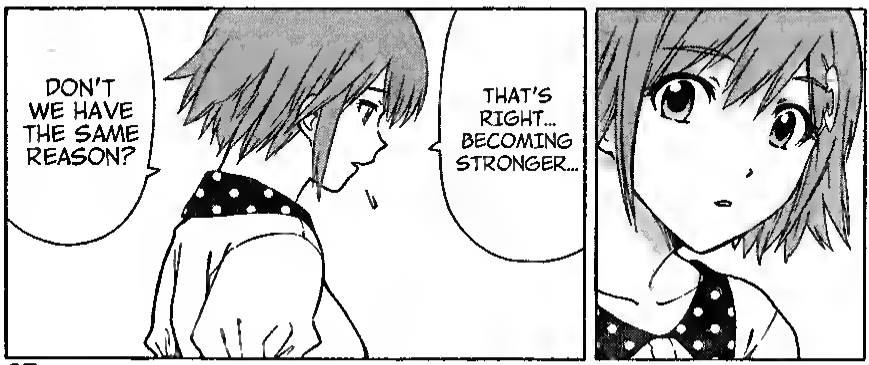


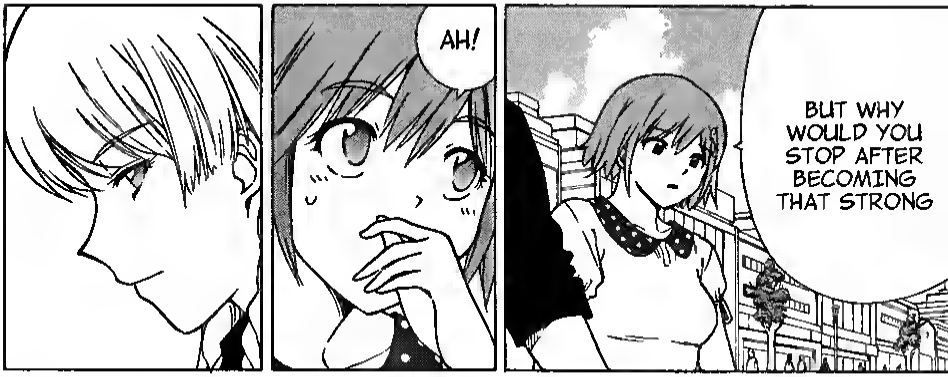
THINGS LIKE THIS LOOK GOOD ON YOU, MARU-CHAN
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
TAKE A LOOK
GO ON
.....

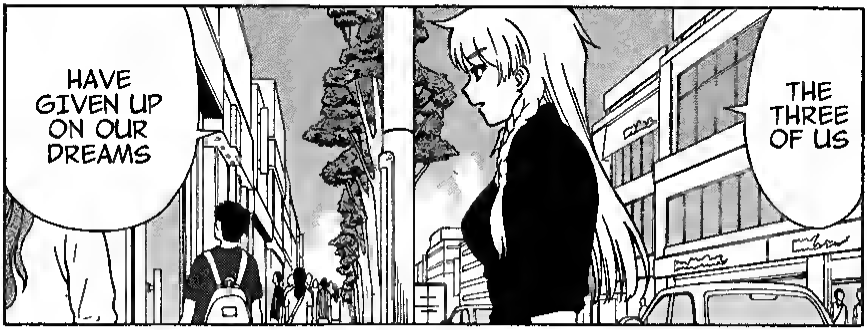
AND THIS WOULD LOOK GREAT ON KIKI-CHAN!
YOU THINK?
TRY IT ON!!
LOOK, LOOK!
IT'S SO CUTE!
YOU THINK?
.....
SOMEHOW.... YOU GUYS DON'T SEEM THAT HAPPY
THIS PROBABLY ISN'T THAT FUN, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL

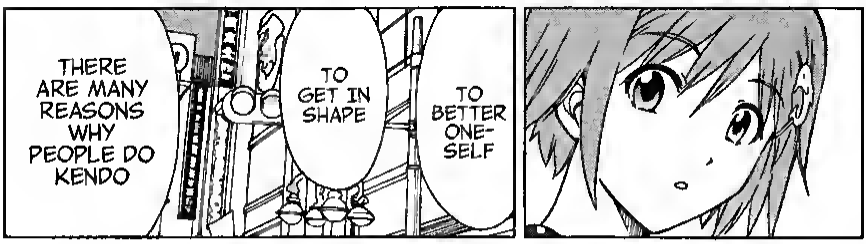
?
AH, SAMI-CHAN
WE'RE JUST NOT USED TO THINGS LIKE THIS
SINCE WE WERE REALLY LITTLE, WE'VE BEEN USED TO PRACTICING ALL DAY, EVERY DAY
IT WAS A LIFE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE AVERAGE GIRL

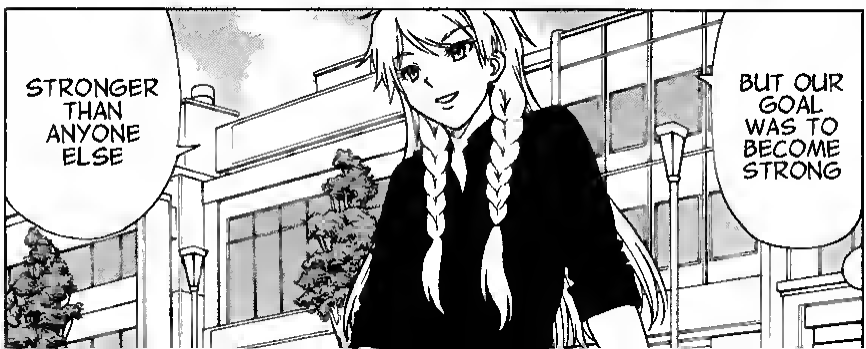

THE LOVELY WORLD OF BEING A GIRL
IS STILL OVER-WHELMING

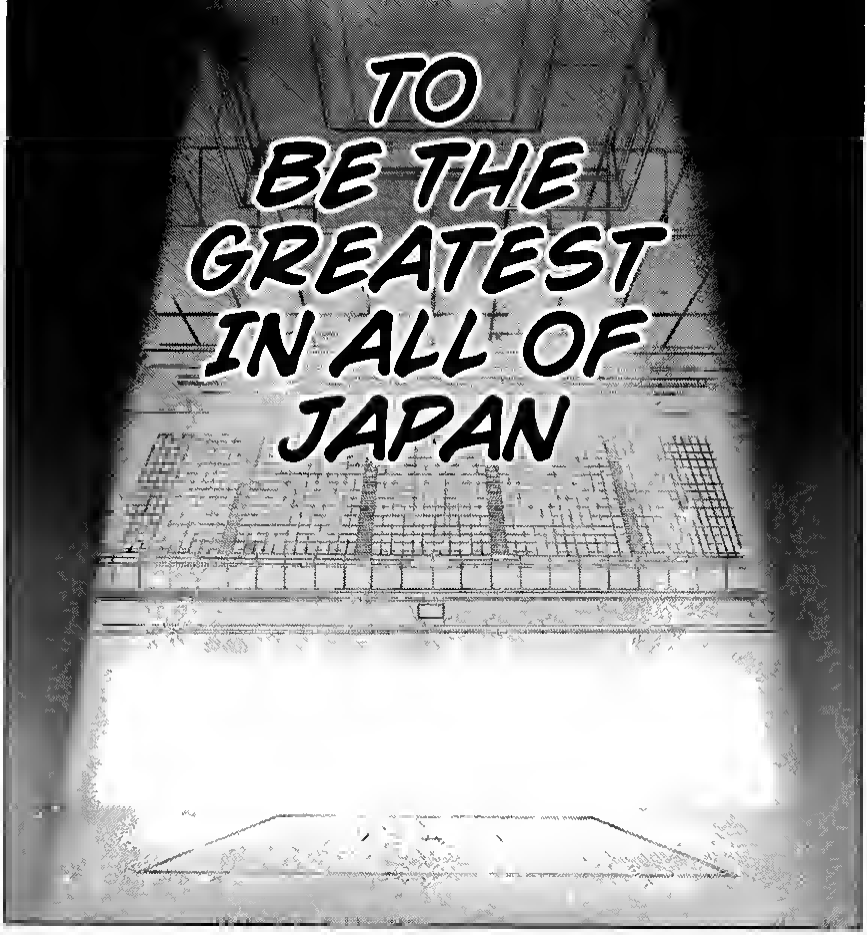

THAT'S RIGHT... BECOMING STRONGER...
DON'T WE HAVE THE SAME REASON?

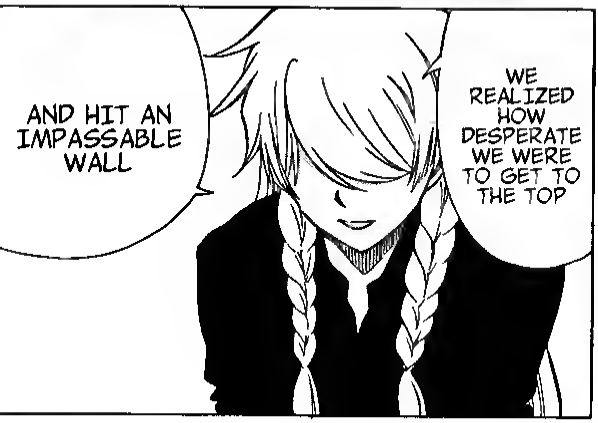

AH!
BUT WHY WOULD YOU STOP AFTER BECOMING THAT STRONG

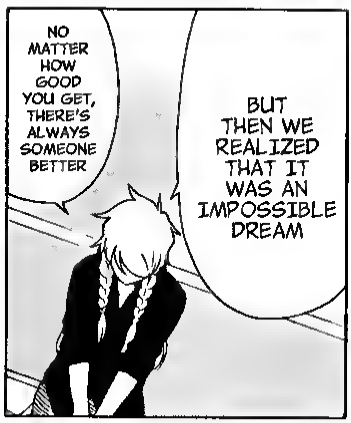

HAVE GIVEN UP ON OUR DREAMS
THE THREE OF US

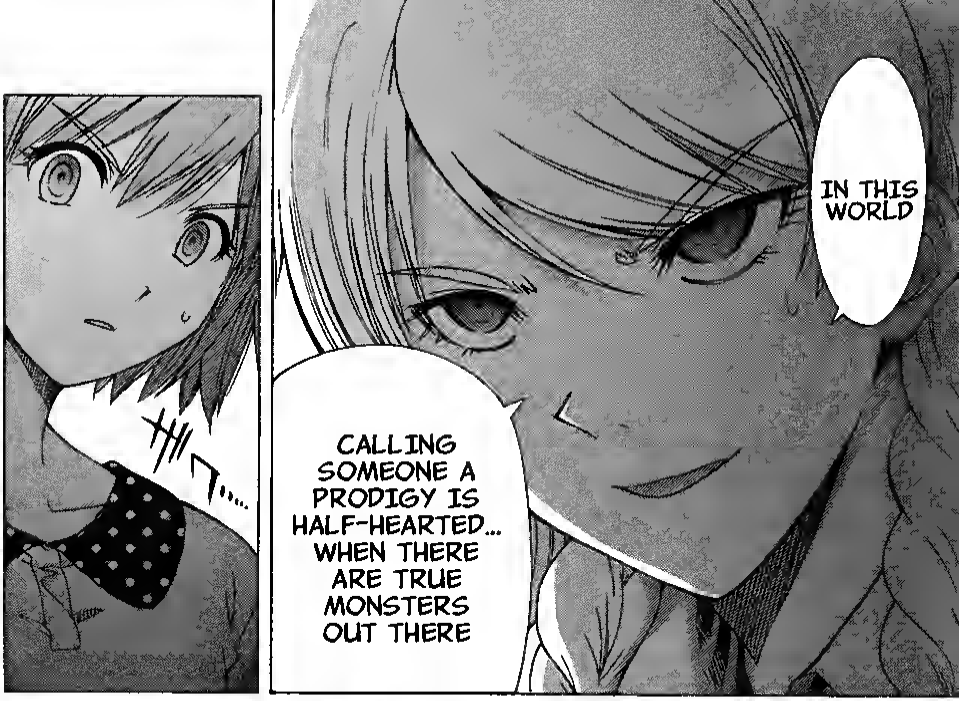

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY PEOPLE DO KENDO
TO GET IN SHAPE
TO BETTER ONE-SELF


STRONGER THAN ANYONE ELSE
BUT OUR GOAL WAS TO BECOME STRONG

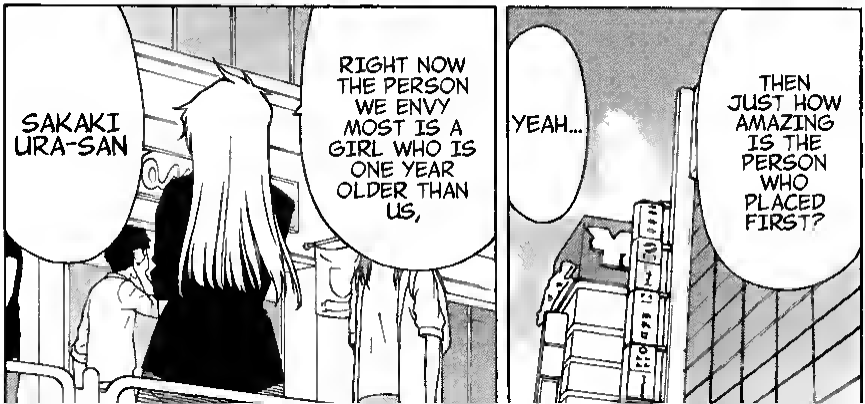

TO BE THE GREATEST IN ALL OF JAPAN


AND HIT AN IMPASSABLE WALL
WE REALIZED HOW DESPERATE WE WERE TO GET TO THE TOP

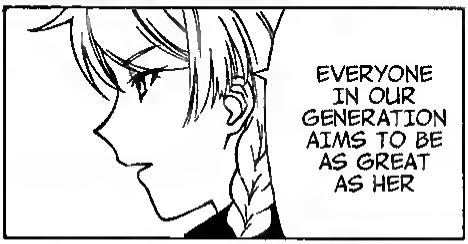

NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOU GET, THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEONE BETTER
BUT THEN WE REALIZED THAT IT WAS AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM


IN THIS WORLD
CALLING SOMEONE A PRODIGY IS HALF-HEARTED... WHEN THERE ARE TRUE MONSTERS OUT THERE
ﾅﾙﾎﾄﾞ....

I'M PARTICU-LARLY WORRIED ABOUT KIKI-SAN
I THINK YOU CAN UNDERSTAND FROM EARLIER
IF SHE WAS 2ND IN THE NATION...

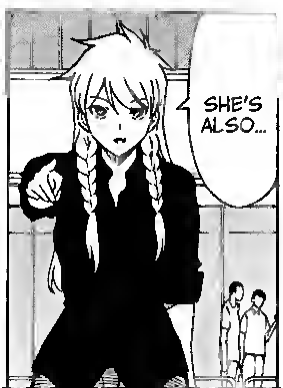

THEN JUST HOW AMAZING IS THE PERSON WHO PLACED FIRST?
YEAH...
RIGHT NOW THE PERSON WE ENVY MOST IS A GIRL WHO IS ONE YEAR OLDER THAN US,
SAKAKI URA-SAN

JUST AS HER NAME SUGGESTS, SHE'S LIKE SOME SORT OF DEMON BECAUSE SHE'S SO STRONG


EVERYONE IN OUR GENERATION AIMS TO BE AS GREAT AS HER

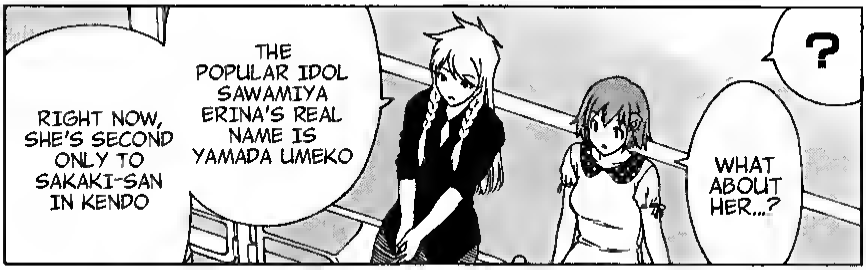
...URA-SAN
SAKA-KI...
ゴクッ

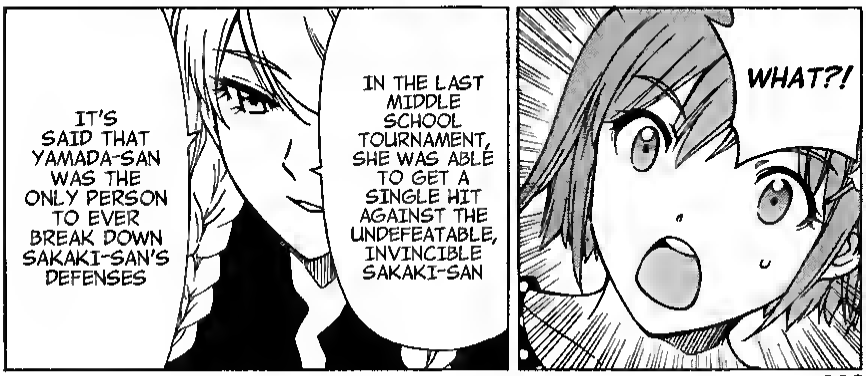
?

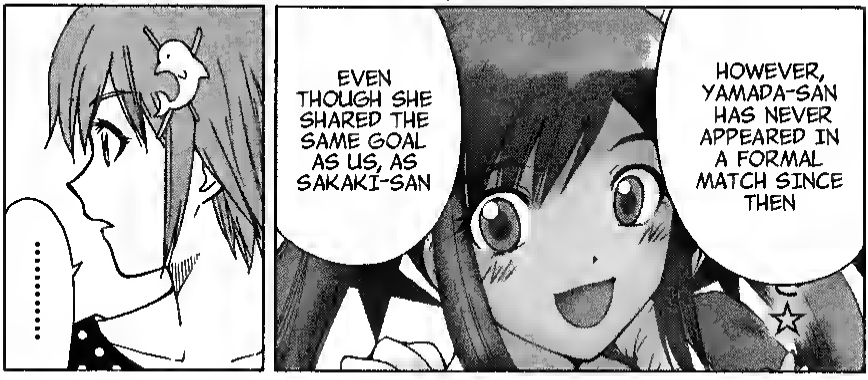

SHE'S ALSO...

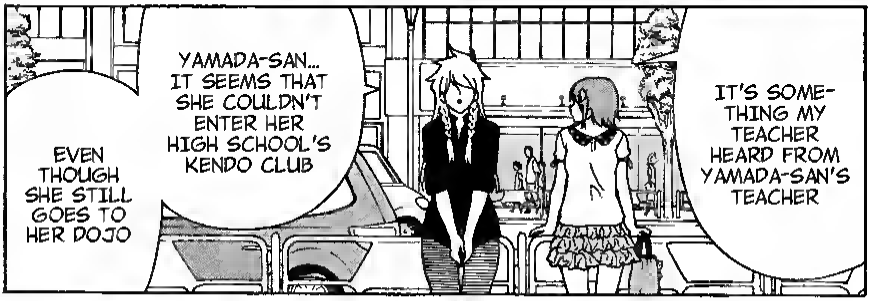
SAWAMIYA ERINA
OH I KNOW! UUUUUM
I'VE SEEN HER A LOT LATELY! SHE'S REALLY CUTE

濃厚ミルクでとろける美味しさ☆
プレミアム
コアミルク
コアミルク
コアミルク


?
WHAT ABOUT HER...?
THE POPULAR IDOL SAWAMIYA ERINA'S REAL NAME IS YAMADA UMEKO
RIGHT NOW, SHE'S SECOND ONLY TO SAKAKI-SAN IN KENDO


WHAT?!
IN THE LAST MIDDLE SCHOOL TOURNAMENT, SHE WAS ABLE TO GET A SINGLE HIT AGAINST THE UNDEFEATABLE, INVINCIBLE SAKAKI-SAN
IT'S SAID THAT YAMADA-SAN WAS THE ONLY PERSON TO EVER BREAK DOWN SAKAKI-SAN'S DEFENSES


……
EVEN THOUGH SHE SHARED THE SAME GOAL AS US, AS SAKAKI-SAN
HOWEVER, YAMADA-SAN HAS NEVER APPEARED IN A FORMAL MATCH SINCE THEN


EVEN THOUGH SHE STILL GOES TO HER DOJO
YAMADA-SAN... IT SEEMS THAT SHE COULDN'T ENTER HER HIGH SCHOOL'S KENDO CLUB
IT'S SOMETHING MY TEACHER HEARD FROM YAMADA-SAN'S TEACHER

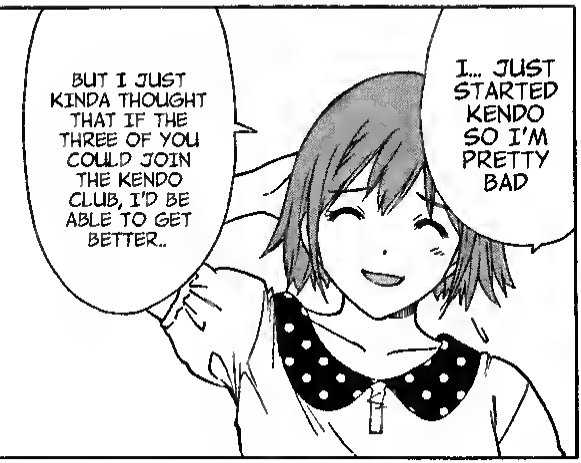
BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T BEAT SAKAKI-SAN...?

……
SO SHE'S OUT OF THE SPOTLIGHT...

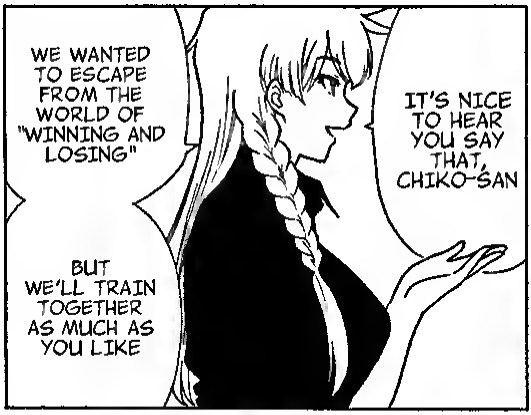
BUT LATELY, SHE'S BECOME TOO BUSY FROM IDOL ACTIVITIES AND IT'S SAID THAT SHE'S RETIRED FROM KENDO

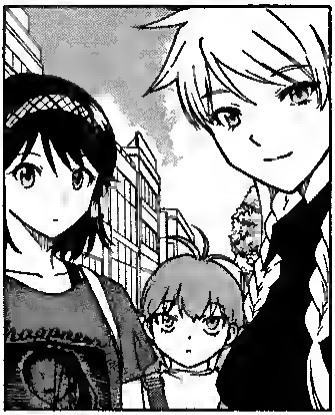
WHO KNOWS....
……

ONCE SHE ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL, SHE WAS WILLING TO DO ANYTHING TO SURPASS SAKAKI-SAN... SHE TRAINED TO THE POINT OF INSANITY
KIKI-SAN ALSO DID HER BEST
HOW-EVER...
HEY, SAMI!! STOP!!
DON'T TALK ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS!
YES, MY APOLO-GIES.
AGH, SERI-OUSLY, YOU HAVE SUCH LOOSE LIPS
I'M SORRY... KIKI-CHAN, SAMI-CHAN, MARU-CHAN

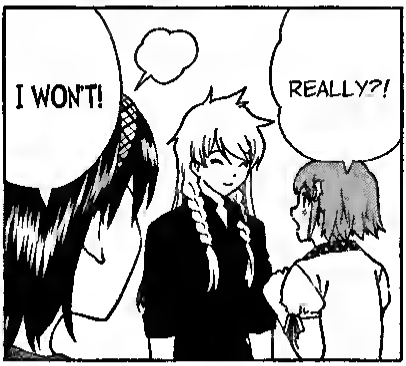

I... JUST STARTED KENDO SO I'M PRETTY BAD
BUT I JUST KINDA THOUGHT THAT IF THE THREE OF YOU COULD JOIN THE KENDO CLUB, I'D BE ABLE TO GET BETTER..

I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND EVERYONE'S SITUATION... AND JUST RAN MY MOUTH

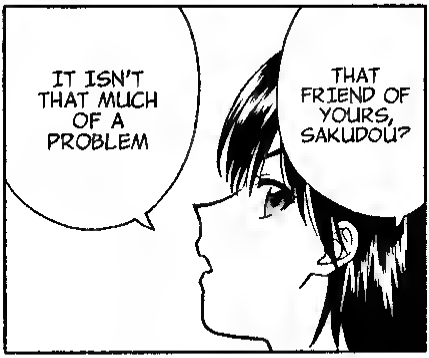

IT'S NICE TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, CHIKO-SAN
WE WANTED TO ESCAPE FROM THE WORLD OF "WINNING AND LOSING"
BUT WE'LL TRAIN TOGETHER AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE

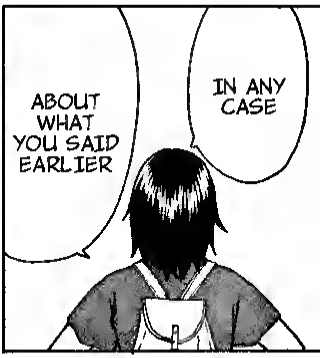


OF COURSE WE WILL, WE'RE FRIENDS
I SAID I WON'T!!


REALLY?!
I WON'T!

FOR THE LAST TIME, I'M NOT DOING IT!!
THANK YOU EVERY-ONE~!!


IT ISN'T THAT MUCH OF A PROBLEM
THAT FRIEND OF YOURS, SAKUDOU?

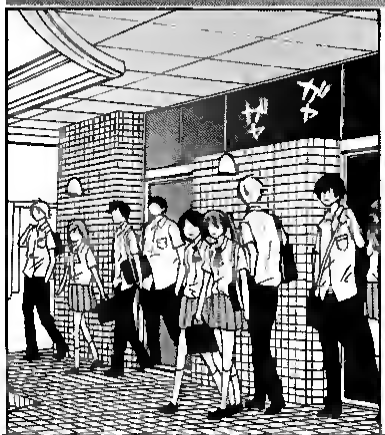

ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID EARLIER
IN ANY CASE

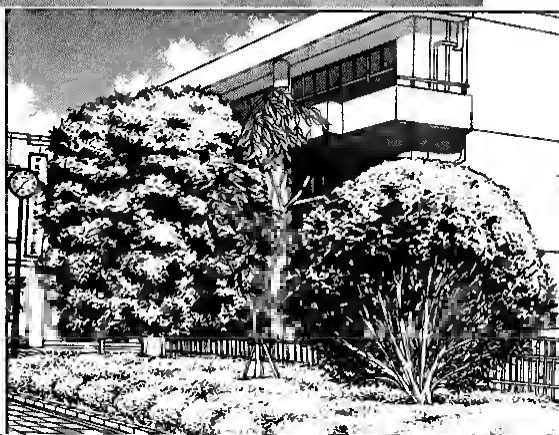
YEAH... I'M SORRY
YOU'LL ONLY MAKE THEM HAVE BITTER THOUGHTS, AND THEN THEY'LL NEVER DO IT
YOU GET IT RIGHT? IF SOMEONE DOESN'T WANT TO DO SOMETHING ANYMORE, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO TRY TO MAKE THEM DO IT..

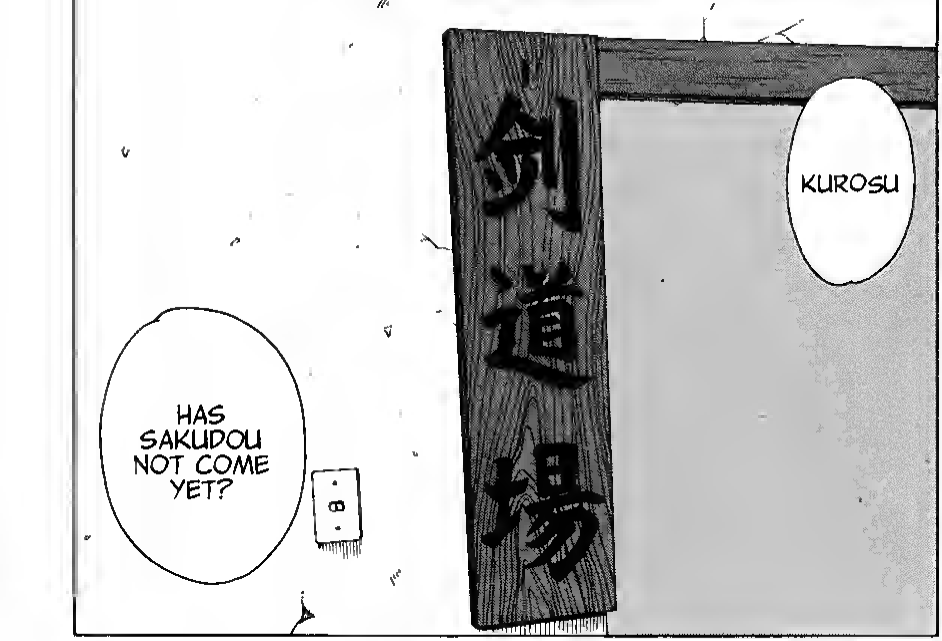
I WANTED TO LET HIM WIN JUST ONCE....
YET, HE NEVER WON A SINGLE MATCH...
I ALWAYS ADMIRED SUZUHARU FOR WORKING HARD WITHOUT PERSONAL GAIN
IT'S JUST THAT.. SUZUHARU HAD TRAINED FOR SO LONG
HIS TEACHER ALWAYS PRAISED HIS HARD WORK AND TECHNIQUE
THIS IS JUST THE LIMIT OF HIS STRENGTH!!
THERE ARE TONS OF LOSERS WHO CAN'T WIN NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY PRACTICE!!
WAIT A MINUTE!!
SORRY
NO "BUT"S!!
BUT...
HE HIMSELF WANTS TO STOP. SO DON'T TRY TO MESS WITH IT ANY MORE

SUZUHARU ENTERED THE KENDO CLUB AGAIN TO HELP THEM OUT...
THERE WEREN'T ANY OTHER NEW MEMBERS SO THE SENPAIS BEGGED HIM...
THEY SAID THEY ONLY NEEDED HIM FOR THE ONE MATCH BUT...

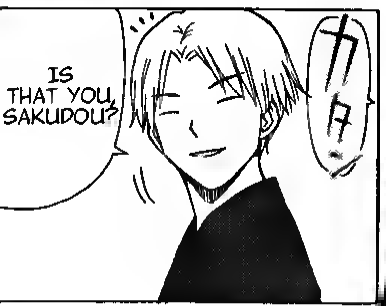
WHAT'S THAT...?






剣道場
KUROSU
HAS SAKUDOU NOT COME YET?

THAT KID'S ALWAYS CAUSING TROUBLE
OH?


IS THAT YOU, SAKUDOU?
カタ

AH
HE SAID HE'LL BE LATE FROM A COMMITTEE MEETING OR SOMETHING

PLEASE EXCUSE ME!

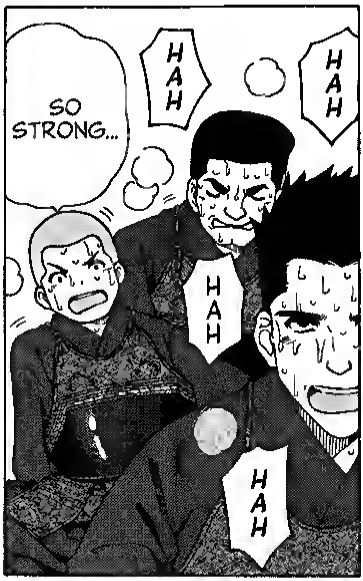
AHH HHHH
THEY'RE FROM THE SPRING TOURNAMENT!
?
MY APOLOGIES, BUT YOU'RE MISTAKEN
OH, NEW MEM-BERS?
I'M GLAD YOU CAME

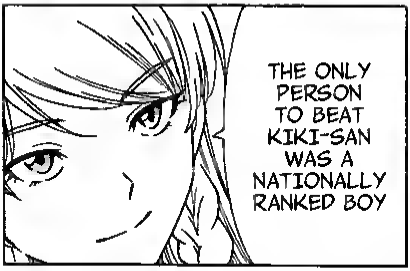
ALRIGHT, I CAN TRAIN WITH THEM
COACH?
WE CAME TO COACH
WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE HERE?

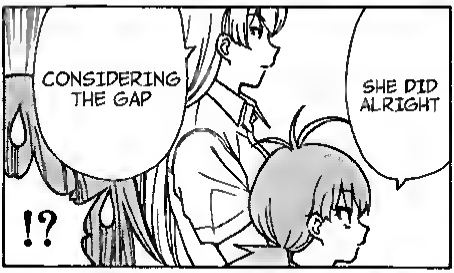
OH? NO. I'M JUST GOING TO PRACTICE NORMALLY
I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO GO JUST TO TRAIN
FORGET IT, KIKI-SAN
WE'LL SHOW OUR FACES AT TOMORROW'S CLUB MEETING
I'LL SETTLE SAKUDOU'S ISSUES
YOU CAN'T MAKE LIGHT OF KENDO
THERE'S NOTHING I HATE MORE THAN HALF-ASSING SOMETHING
WHILE I'M GRATEFUL, ISN'T THIS A LITTLE SUDDEN?
YOU WANT TO BE KUROSU AND SAKUDOU'S COACH HUH?
I'LL BEAT HIS SPIRIT FOR GOOD

PLEASE JUDGE IF I AM FIT TO ACT AS A COACH
BUT
I'M SORRY FOR THE ABRUPT-NESS
YEAH, YOU CAN'T JUST DO WHAT YOU WANT WITHOUT THE CAPTAIN AND TEACHER'S PERMISSION
I'LL TAKE ON ANYONE SO PLEASE STEP FORWARD!
ALL RIGHT!!
朝比奈
UH...
WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...

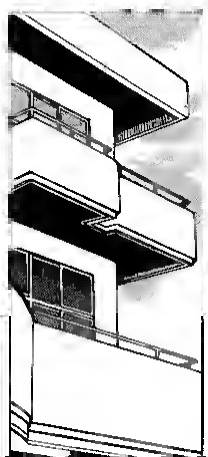
キュッ
キュッ
キュッ
KYA AAH!
I GIVE UP!
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD!!


SO STRONG...
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

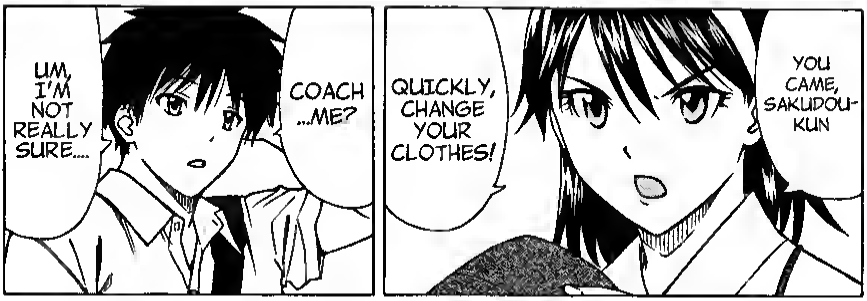

THE ONLY PERSON TO BEAT KIKI-SAN WAS A NATIONALLY RANKED BOY


CONSIDERING THE GAP
SHE DID ALRIGHT
!?

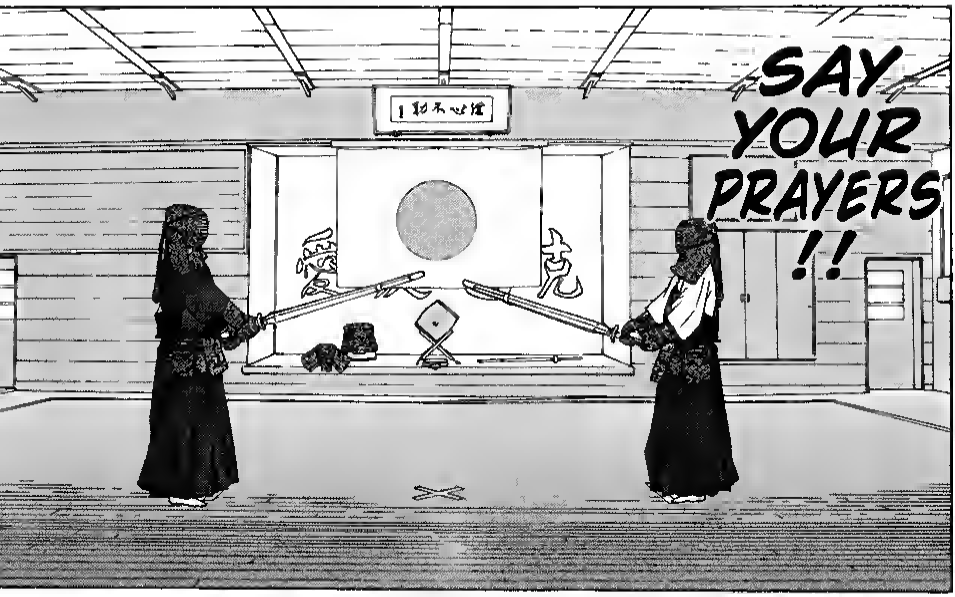
NEXT...
...JUST... ONE MORE TIME...
THE NEXT TOURNAMENT WILL BE THE LAST!

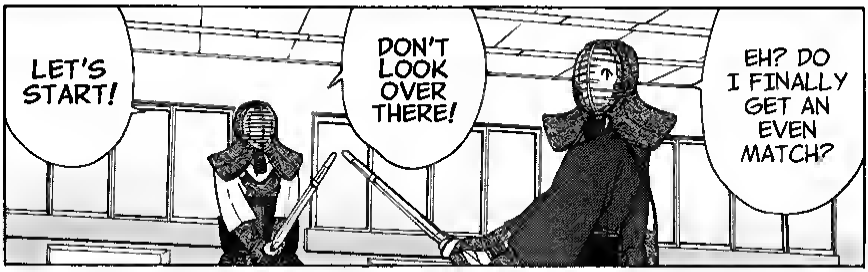


HUH?

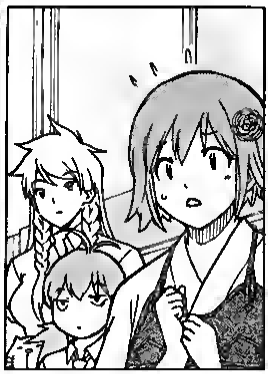

UM, I'M NOT REALLY SURE...
COACH ...ME?
QUICKLY, CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES!
YOU CAME, SAKUDOU-KUN

SAKUDOU SUZUHARU
HONESTLY... HE'S THE TYPE OF GUY I HATE
WHAT A WORN OUT FACE...
THANKS I GUESS


SAY YOUR PRAYERS!!


LET'S START!
DON'T LOOK OVER THERE!
EH? DO I FINALLY GET AN EVEN MATCH?

IT'S FOR HIS OWN GOOD
I PITY HIM A LITTLE BUT... I'M GONNA GIVE HIS UNCALLOUSED SKIN A GOOD BEATING



ガシャン
SORRY, I ACCIDENTALLY GAVE IT MY ALL AGAINST A GIRL
I WASN'T THINKING
AH
EH...

YOU'RE NOT THAT STRONG
STRONG
THAT IS...
EH
SO HOW HAVE YOU NEVER WON A MATCH AT YOUR LEVEL?
BECAUSE I LACK DISCI-PLINE
THEN I SHALL SHOW YOU DISCI-PLINE
I SEE
.....

PLEASE GO EASY ON ME
AHH, YOU'RE GOING TO COACH ME RIGHT?
WORK HARD WITH ME!
I'LL DEFINITELY GET YOU TO THE NATION-ALS!
NO, YOU'LL GET FIRST IN THE COUNTRY!!
JUST COME HERE EVERY DAY!!

I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHAT CHIKO WAS TALKING ABOUT EARLIER...
SAKUDOU SUZUHARU HAS A DREAM
I DON'T HAVE IT... BUT HE IS ABLE TO HOPE
?
I JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO ENTRUST HIM WITH THE DREAM I COULDN'T ACCOMPLISH
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT
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